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This application is in condition for allowance except for the presence of claims 1 and 11-28 directed to inventions non-elected without traverse. Accordingly, claims 1 and 11-28 have been cancelled.

Applicant's claim for the benefit of a prior-filed application under 35 U.S.C. 119(e) is acknowledged. Applicant have now complied with the conditions for receiving the benefit of an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. 119(e).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Melissa Koslow whose telephone number is (571) 272-1371. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 8:00 AM to 3:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jerry Lorengo, can be reached at (571) 272-1233.

The fax number for all official communications is (571) 273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/cmk/ May 18, 2008 /C. Melissa Koslow/ Primary Examiner Art Unit 1793